

# The Eucharist

12 July 2020



15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A



In the original Greek *logos* is translated as 'word' in today's Gospel. The word 'dialogue' is derived from *Logos*. So, the parable could better be put this way: 'Dialogue was sown. Some fell on the edge of the path, some fell on rocks, some fell among thorns, some fell on good soil, etc.' The parable is inviting us to examine whether we are people of dialogue.



*As the farmer sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path ...  
Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop.'*

## FIRST READING

(Isaiah 55:10-11)

We can re-phrase Isaiah in our first reading thus: 'As the rain comes down from the heavens and waters the earth making it yield a harvest, so dialogue comes from God and nourishes our inter-personal relationships making them yield a good harvest.' Without God's grace, we wouldn't be able to persevere in communicating with others.

## SECOND READING

(Romans 8:18-23)

This text is one of the resources of Eco-spirituality. Eco-spirituality connects the science of ecology with spirituality. It brings together religion and environmental activism. Eco-spirituality is a manifestation of the spiritual connection between human beings and the environment. Eco-spirituality frees people from consumerism.

## GOSPEL

(Matthew 13:1-23)

The parable of the sower is an encouragement by Jesus to his followers, warning them that much of their work in proclaiming the coming kingdom will be wasted effort, but promising them that God will bring forth results far exceeding their expectations. Do your best but trust in God!

– Fr Patrick Moroney, SVD

## THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

### Entrance Antiphon

(Cf. Ps 16:15)

**As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;  
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all.

**And with your spirit.**

### Penitential Act

Brethren (brothers and sisters),  
let us acknowledge our sins,  
and so prepare ourselves  
to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

*A brief pause for silence follows.*

You were sent to heal the contrite of heart:

Lord, have mercy.

Or: Kyrie, eleison.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Or: Kyrie, eleison.

You came to call sinners:

Christ, have mercy.

Or: Christe, eleison.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Or: Christe, eleison.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father  
to intercede for us:

Lord, have mercy.

Or: Kyrie, eleison.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Or: Kyrie, eleison.

May almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive us our sins,  
and bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.

### Gloria

**Gloria to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.**

**We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## Collect

O God, who show the light of your truth to those who go astray, so that they may return to the right path, give all who for the faith they profess are accounted Christians the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of Christ and to strive after all that does it honour. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING

(Is 55:10-11)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 64:10-14)

**R Some seed fell into rich soil, and produced its crop.**

1. You care for the earth, give it water, you fill it with riches.  
Your river in heaven brims over to provide its grain. **R**
2. And thus you provide for the earth; you drench its furrows, you level it, soften it with showers, you bless its growth. **R**
3. You crown the year with your goodness. Abundance flows in your steps, in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. **R**
4. The hills are girded with joy, the meadows covered with flocks, the valleys are decked with wheat.  
They shout for joy, yes, they sing. **R**

### SECOND READING

(Rm 8:18-23)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(1 Sm 3:9; Jn 6:68)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Speak, Lord, your servant is listening;

you have the message of eternal life.

Alleluia!

### GOSPEL

(Mt 13:1-23)

(For Shorter Form, read between ♦ ♦)



The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glorify to you, O Lord.

♦ Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!♦

Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because,' he replied, 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but for anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled:

You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive. For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me.

'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it.

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

## Profession of Faith

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,

*At the words that follow, up to and including  
and became man, all bow.*

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored  
and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*The priest introduces the* Prayer of the Faithful.

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*Offering the bread, the priest says:*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,  
for through your goodness we have received  
the bread we offer you:  
fruit of the earth and work of human hands,  
it will become for us the bread of life.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*Offering the chalice, the priest says:*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,  
for through your goodness we have received  
the wine we offer you:  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands,  
it will become our spiritual drink.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters),  
that my sacrifice and yours  
may be acceptable to God,  
the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

*(Nicene Creed)*

## Prayer over the Offerings

Look upon the offerings of the Church, O Lord,  
as she makes her prayer to you,  
and grant that, when consumed by those who believe,  
they may bring ever greater holiness.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## Eucharistic Prayer II

*(Preface Proper)*

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right and just.**

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,

Father most holy,  
through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ,  
your Word through whom you made all things,  
whom you sent as our Saviour and Redeemer,  
incarnate by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin.  
Fulfilling your will and gaining for you a holy people,  
he stretched out his hands as he endured his Passion,  
so as to break the bonds of death and manifest  
the resurrection.

And so, with the Angels and all the Saints  
we declare your glory,  
as with one voice we acclaim:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

You are indeed Holy, O Lord,  
the fount of all holiness.

Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray,  
by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall,  
so that they may become for us  
the Body and  $\times$  Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

At the time he was betrayed  
and entered willingly into his Passion,  
he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it,  
and gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT,  
FOR THIS IS MY BODY,  
WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

In a similar way, when supper was ended,  
he took the chalice

and, once more giving thanks,  
he gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT,  
FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,

THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT,  
WHICH WILL BE Poured OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY  
FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.

**DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.**

The mystery of faith.

**We proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
and profess your Resurrection  
until you come again.**

Therefore, as we celebrate the memorial of his Death and Resurrection, we offer you, Lord, the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation, giving thanks that you have held us worthy to be in your presence and minister to you.

Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit.

Remember, Lord, your Church, spread throughout the world, and bring her to the fullness of charity, together with **N.** our Pope and **N.** our Bishop and all the clergy.

Remember also our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection, and all who have died in your mercy: welcome them into the light of your face.

Have mercy on us all, we pray, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with blessed Joseph, her Spouse, with the blessed Apostles,

and all the Saints who have pleased you throughout the ages,

we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life, and may praise and glorify you through your Son, Jesus Christ.

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

Amen.

## THE COMMUNION RITE

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**For the kingdom,  
the power and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.**

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,

look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will.

Who live and reign for ever and ever.

Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And with your spirit.**

*The priest may invite the people to exchange a sign of peace and Christian fellowship. As the priest breaks the consecrated Host the following is sung or said:*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
grant us peace.**

*Showing the Host to the people, the priest says:*

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**Lord, I am not worthy  
that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word  
and my soul shall be healed.**

**Communion Antiphon**

*(Cf. Ps 83:4-5)*

**The sparrow finds a home,  
and the swallow a nest for her young:  
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.  
Blessed are they who dwell in your house,  
for ever singing your praise.**

**Prayer after Communion**

Having consumed these gifts, we pray, O Lord, That, by our participation in this mystery, its saving effect upon us may grow. through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

## THE CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, **✠** and the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Personal Prayer**

Lord Jesus, I shall never know the peace which you have offered to your true followers unless I learn to see myself and others through your eyes. Grant me the wisdom, patience, and strength to come each day a little closer to your way of thinking and living. Then I shall gradually be convinced of your personal love for me, and the supernatural value which you have given to my daily life. Free of anxiety and doubts, I shall find a holy contentment in my activities, and a supernatural joy in increasing my good works within the narrow limits of my daily possibilities. Amen.